

Course number & Name: AH 130—Reimbursement Methodologies

Credit hours: 4

Method of Delivery: eLearning

Course Description: The student is introduced to a variety of private insurer and governmental reimbursement systems, legal and ethical issues, government regulations, required record keeping and documentation involved with managed care and capitation, the prospective payment system including DRGs, APGs, RBRVS, third party payers, explanation of benefits, peer review organizations.

Prerequisite: AH110

Text(s) & Manual(s):

1. *Understanding Health Policy*, (Fourth Edition)
 - Author: Thomas Bodenheimer & Kevin Grumbach
 - Publisher: McGraw-Hill Medical Publishing Division (2005)
 - ISBN: 0-07-142311-7
2. *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead*
 - Author: Laurie Abraham
 - Publisher: University of Chicago Press (1993)
 - ISBN 0-226-00139-3

Materials needed for this course: Hardware/Software and Equipment: eLearning System
Requirements for Midstate College and eLearning Suggested System Requirements for Midstate College

Topics:

1. Healthcare reimbursement from a historical perspective
2. Current issues related to financial reimbursement
3. The role of professional healthcare staff in obtaining reimbursement
4. The future issues facing U.S. healthcare/reimbursement

Learning Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Define and use selected terms related to financial reimbursement.
2. Identify four modes of healthcare financing.
3. Describe major reimbursement systems used to pay hospitals and physicians
4. Relate common concerns regarding the cost of healthcare and access to services.
5. Describe initiatives to control quality, availability and cost of service.
6. Recognize alternative ways of financing healthcare used in other nations.
7. Describe legal concerns related to reimbursement of services.

Midstate Grading scale:

90	100	A
80	89	B
70	79	C
60	69	D
0	59	F

Midstate Plagiarism Policy: Matters related to academic honesty or contrary action such as cheating, plagiarism, or giving unauthorized help on examinations or assignments may result in an instructor giving a student a failing grade for that academic effort and also recommending the student be given a failing grade for the course and/or be subject to dismissal.

Plagiarism is using another person's words without giving credit to the author. Original speeches, publications, and artistic creations are sources for research. If you use the author's words in your papers or assignments, you must acknowledge the source. Plagiarism is strictly against the academic policy of the college and is grounds for failing the course. If repeated, plagiarism may result in suspension from the college.

Instructor Information:

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Participation Requirements: You are expected to participate at least 2 days a week in several conference discussions/homework assignments relating to the subject materials for the week. Discussions will take place in the Classroom Newsgroup as assigned by the faculty member. You will read, analyze, and respond to questions and comments from the faculty member and the fellow students.

Methods of evaluating student performance: Your grade will be based on **1,000** possible points:

- **100 points** - Examination #1 (Consisting of True/False, matching, multiple choice)
- **100 points** - Examination #2 (Consisting of True/False, matching, multiple choice)
- **100 points** - Final Examination (Consisting of True/False, matching, multiple choice)
- **140 points** – Book critique of *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead* (information to be posted)
- **200 points** – Research paper (information to be posted)
- **360 points** - Classroom Participation (weekly summaries, homework assignments, and responses to the study questions). There will be 24 assignments throughout the term; each assignment is worth 15 points. Four points will be deducted from your class participation grade if assignments are not turned in. Two points will be deducted from your class participation if assignments are turned in late or are lacking in content (this applies if you submit a short/vague weekly summary and/or a short/vague response to a weekly study problem.)

Examination Information:

1. **Examination #1** - will consist of 100 points and it will cover chapters 1-7. It will be posted in the Course Materials Newsgroup day 1 of week 5 and its due day 7 of week 5.
2. **Examination #2** - will consist of 100 points and it will cover chapters 8-15. It will be posted in the Course Materials Newsgroup day 1 of week 9 and it is due day 7 of week 9.
3. The **final examination** will consist of 100 points and it will cover chapters 1-15. It will be posted in the Course Materials Newsgroup day 2 of week 11 and it is due day 2 of week 12.

Instructor's Grading Scale:

90	100	A
80	89	B
70	79	C
60	69	D
0	59	F

Course Schedule:

Week 1	November 14	Through	November 20
Thanksgiving Vacation (November 21st through November 27th)			
Week 2	November 28 th	Through	December 4 th
Week 3	December 5 th	Through	December 11 th
Week 4	December 12 th	Through	December 18 th
Christmas Vacation (December 19th through January 1st)			
Week 5	January 2 nd	Through	January 8 th
Week 6	January 9 th	Through	January 15 th
Week 7	January 16 th	Through	January 22 nd
Week 8	January 23 rd	Through	January 29 th
Week 9	January 30 th	Through	February 5 th
Week 10	February 6 th	Through	February 12 th
Week 11	February 13 th	Through	February 19 th
Week 12	February 20 th	Through	February 25 th

Weekly Summary: Every student must submit a weekly summary to the Classroom Newsgroup by day 7 for each week. (Please post your responses to the Classroom Newsgroup by replying to group to the weekly summary instructions that are posted day 1 of each week. Do not send your responses as a new post, after reading the instructions, hit reply group, then type and send your response.) For details on this assignment, refer to the weekly summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 1:

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will be:

- become familiarized with the eLearning classroom. Please make sure you answer each of the 3 questions and send your response to the appropriate Newsgroup.

Assignments

- Written assignment
 - Send me an e-mail assuring me that you have downloaded a copy of our course syllabus and let me know how familiar/comfortable you are using newsgroups.
 - Summarize yourself in an autobiographical piece on who you are, what you do, why you are in school, what your future aspirations are etc. Let the other class members get to know you through this exercise. We will be sharing this information with everyone in this class. Post your summary by day 7 to the Classroom Newsgroup. Before you post your autobiography, please read my autobiography and follow the instructions on how to post/thread your autobiography (my autobiography will be posted day 1 of week 1).
 - In the event I would need to speak with you, please provide me with telephone number(s), home, work, etc., where I can contact you. Post this information to the Assignments Newsgroup. (Only the faculty member has the rights to view the information posted to the Assignments Newsgroup).

- Complete the Reimbursement Methodologies (AH130) Online pre-test. This pre-test will be available online day 1 of week 1 through day 7 of week 1. This pre-test must be completed during week 1. Students will receive an e-mail from the eLearning Coordinator at the beginning of week 1 with specific instructions and the link to complete the pre-test.

These exercises should get you familiar with the Newsgroups and the way in which you will be able to communicate with the faculty member and your fellow classmates throughout the term. Have fun with these assignments.

Week 2:

Topics

- Paying for health care
- Access to health care
- Complete the audio lecture for Week 2

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- understand the various methods of paying for health care
- understand the need for and impediments to access to health care

Assignments

Required Reading

- Read Chapters 1, 2, and 3 in Understanding Health Policy (fourth edition)

Written Assignments

- Vocabulary (Terms to be posted in the Course Materials newsgroup) - Please write out each term and definition. Submit by day 7. Please post your answers to the Assignments Newsgroup.
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the topic of paying for and access to health care. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Chat Room. Please respond by day 5 to the Chat Room.

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 3:

Topics

- Reimbursing health care providers
- Capitation payment in managed care
- Complete the audio lecture for Week 3

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- be familiar with health care reimbursement methods
- understand capitation payment in managed care

Assignments

Required Reading

- Read Chapters 4 and 5 in Understanding Health Policy (fourth edition)

Written Assignments

- Vocabulary (Terms to be posted in the Course Materials newsgroup) - Please write out each term and definition. Submit by day 7. Please post your answers to the Assignments Newsgroup.
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the topics of reimbursing health care providers and capitation payment in managed care. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Chat Room. Please respond by day 5 to the Chat Room.

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 4:

Topics

- How health care is organized
- Complete the audio lecture for Week 4

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- understand the organization of the health care system

Assignments

Required Reading

Read Chapters 6 and 7 in Understanding Health Policy (fourth edition)

Written Assignments

- Vocabulary (Terms to be posted in the Course Materials newsgroup) - Please write out each term and definition. Submit by day 7. Please post your answers to the Assignments Newsgroup.
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the topic of the organization of health care. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Chat Room. Please respond by day 5 to the Chat Room.

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 5:

Topics

- Controlling health care costs
- Complete the audio lecture for Week 5

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- Be able to identify painless and painful cost controls

Assignments

Required Reading

Read Chapters 8 and 9 in Understanding Health Policy (fourth edition)

Written Assignments

- Vocabulary (Terms to be posted in the Course Materials newsgroup) - Please write out each term and definition. Submit by day 7. Please post your answers to the Assignments Newsgroup.
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the topic of controlling health care costs. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Chat Room. Please respond by day 5 to the Chat Room.
- Test 1. The examination will be posted by 12:00 p.m. on day 1 of week 5 and is due day 7 of week 5. There will be a penalty for examinations turned in later than day 7 of week 5.

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 6:

Topics

- Long-Term Care
- Prevention of illness
- Complete the audio lecture for Week 6

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- understand what constitutes long-term care
- be familiar with the models for prevention of illness

Assignments

Required Reading

Read Chapters 10 and 11 in Understanding Health Policy (fourth edition)

Written Assignments

- Vocabulary (Terms to be posted in the Course Materials newsgroup) - Please write out each term and definition. Submit by day 7. Please post your answers to the Assignments Newsgroup.
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the topics of long-term care and illness prevention. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Chat Room. Please respond by day 5 to the Chat Room.

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 7:

Topics

- The quality of health care
- Medical ethics and health care rationing
- Complete the audio lecture for Week 7

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- Understand the quality problems in health care
- Be familiar with the principles of medical ethics
- Understand the concept of rationing of health care

Assignments

Required Reading

Read Chapters 12 and 13 in Understanding Health Policy (fourth edition)

Written Assignments

- Vocabulary (Terms to be posted in the Course Materials newsgroup) - Please write out each term and definition. Submit by day 7. Please post your answers to the Assignments Newsgroup.
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the topics of health care quality and medical ethics. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Chat Room. Please respond by day 5 to the Chat Room.

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 8:

Topics

- International health care
- National health insurance
- Complete the audio lecture for Week 8

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- appreciate the health care systems in four other nations
- understand the history of and concept of government-financed health insurance

Assignments

Required Reading

Read Chapters 14 and 15 in Understanding Health Policy (fourth edition)

Written Assignments

- Vocabulary (Terms to be posted in the Course Materials newsgroup) - Please write out each term and definition. Submit by day 7. Please post your answers to the Assignments Newsgroup.
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the topics of international and national health care. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Chat Room. Please respond by day 5 to the Chat Room.

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 9:

Topics

- Conflict and change in U.S. health care
- The health care workforce
- Tensions and challenges in U.S. health care

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- gain an appreciation of the history of health care in the U.S.
- understand the trends in the health care workforce
- be familiar with the current tensions in U.S. health care

Assignments

Required Reading

Read Chapters 16, 17, and 18 in Understanding Health Policy (fourth edition)

Written Assignments

- Vocabulary (Terms to be posted in the Course Materials newsgroup) - Please write out each term and definition. Submit by day 7. Please post your answers to the Assignments Newsgroup.
- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the topics of the future of health care. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)

- Every student must respond to the questions posted to the Chat Room. Please respond by day 5 to the Chat Room.
- Test 2. The examination will be posted by 12:00 p.m. on day 1 of week 5 and is due day 7 of week 5. There will be a penalty for examinations turned in later than day 7 of week 5.

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 10:

Topics

- Government-financed health care in the real world

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- Gain an understanding of the problems facing families using government-financed health care in the U.S.

Assignments

Required Reading

Mama Might Be Better Off Dead

Written Assignments

- Every student must respond to the discussion questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the lessons learned in Mama Might Be Better Off Dead. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 11:

Topics

- Government-financed health care in the real world

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this week, the student will:

- Gain an understanding of the problems facing families using government-financed health care in the U.S.

Assignments

Required Reading

Mama Might Be Better Off Dead

Written Assignments

- Every student must respond to the discussion questions posted to the Classroom Newsgroup. This week's question will focus on the lessons learned in Mama Might Be Better Off Dead. (Please respond by day 5 to the Classroom Newsgroup.)
- The book critique of Mama Might Be Better Off Dead is due by day 7 of Week 11. Please attach the critique as an attachment to a posting to the Classroom Newsgroup.

Weekly Summary

Each week you will present a brief report to the Classroom Newsgroup summarizing what you learned from the readings, assignments, and course activities. Each weekly summary is due at the end of the week. For details on this assignment, refer to the summary instructions, which are presented each week by the faculty member. Students will not be required to present a weekly summary for the first week of the course.

Week 12:

Topics

- Final examination

Assignments

Written Assignments

- Week 12 will focus on our final examination. Our final examination will be posted in the Course Materials Newsgroup by 12:00 p.m. on day 2 of week 11 and is due day 2 of week 12. There will be a penalty for exams turned in later than day 2 of week 12.
- You will also be required to submit a summary reflecting your experiences in this course. More information will be given day 2 of week 11 in the Course Materials Newsgroup.
- Your research paper should be posted to the Class Newsgroup as an attachment to a post by day 2 of week 12. There will be a penalty for exams turned in later than day 2 of week 12.